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THE CHOLERA SITUATION.

The cholera situation remains practically the same as that reported last week. The disease continues to prevail in Italy apparently unabated. It is extending in Russia, and cases have been reported in Austria-Hungary. According to last advices the disease was still present at Marseille, France. The disease is spreading and the cases are becoming more numerous in Turkey, in Europe, and in Asia.

All precautions are being maintained to prevent the importation of the disease into the United States. Officers of the Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service are being kept at the principal foreign ports from which emigrants from cholera-infected localities embark for ports in the United States. Bacteriological examination of immigrants for the detection of cholera carriers is being continued. No case of cholera nor cholera carrier has been detected on arriving vessels since August 18, 1911.

ANTITYPHOID VACCINATION.

The prevalence of typhoid fever in practically every section of the United States makes any measure which will protect the individual or assist in preventing the spread of the disease of importance to health authorities, and of general interest. The production of artificial immunity against typhoid fever by antityphoid vaccination constitutes such a measure, and promises to have a considerable sphere of usefulness, especially for those about to enter conditions in which they will be unduly exposed to the disease, namely, physicians, nurses, hospital internes and externes, travelers, and armies.

However, although antityphoid vaccination is useful in the protection of the individual under the limitations noted in the report which follows, it should in no wise supplant the measures now in use and advocated for the prevention of the spread of the disease from the sick to the well. It should not lessen the precautions at the bedside, the disinfection of typhoid excreta in the household, the keeping of water supplies, both private and public, free from contamination, the purification of public water supplies where indicated and the supervision of the production and sale of milk, and other foodstuffs.

Antityphoid vaccine can now be obtained, by physicians wishing to use it, in the same way and at the same places as other biological products such as diphtheria antitoxin and vaccine for smallpox.

The following manufacturers of biological products have been licensed by the Secretary of the Treasury to produce and sell antityphoid vaccine in interstate traffic:

Parke, Davis & Co., Detroit, Mich.; H. K. Mulford Co., Philadelphia, Pa.; The Cutter Laboratory, Berkeley, Cal.; National Vaccine and Antitoxin Establishment, Washington, D. C.; Lederle Antitoxin Laboratories, New York City; Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., London, England (office for the United States, New York City); Swiss Serum and Vaccine Institute, Berne, Switzerland (agents for the United States, Pasteur Vaccine Co., New York City).

Before issuing these licenses the producing laboratories and their method of preparation of the vaccine were inspected by officers of the Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service detailed for the purpose and the product itself was examined in the Hygienic Laboratory.

A commission appointed by the Academy of Medicine of Paris to report upon the status of antityphoid vaccination has recently made its report. The commission consisted of MM. Chantemesse, Delorme, Kelsch, Landouzy, Netter, Roux, Thoinot, Vaillard, Widai, and H. Vincent, *rapporteur*. The report was written by H. Vincent and the conclusions were adopted by the commission. The report consists largely of a review of the experiments and statistics upon which the use of antityphoid vaccine is based.

Because of the interest and importance of the subject to health authorities and others, a translation has been made of extracts from this report, published in the April, 1911, Bulletin of the International Office of Public Hygiene at Paris. For the convenience of the reader the order of the report has been changed and the summary of the report and the conclusions of the commission placed first and the discussion and statistics last.

**EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION APPOINTED
BY THE ACADEMY OF MEDICINE OF PARIS.¹**

(Translated by Joseph W. Schereschewsky, passed assistant surgeon, United States Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.)

SUMMARY.

The facts and information contained in this report, as well as the indications for antityphoid vaccination may be summarized as follows:

First. Antityphoid vaccination has for several years been applied with success in the English, German, and American Army. More than 100,000 persons have been inoculated either in their native country or especially in colonies where these soldiers were sent and where typhoid fever is prevalent.

The antityphoid vaccines, hitherto the most frequently employed, have been the bacillary vaccines—that is, cultures of Eberth's bacillus killed by heat.

Second. The benefits conferred by these preventive inoculations are revealed by comparative statistics of the typhoid morbidity and mortality, on the one hand, among soldiers subjected to the vaccination and, on the other, among the nonvaccinated. The former

¹ From the Bull. de l'Off. Int. d'Hyg., Publ., Apr. 1911, pp. 631-662.